



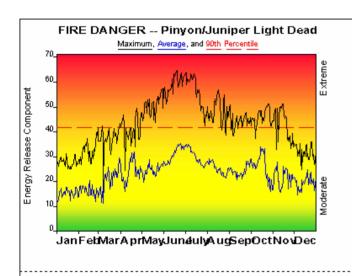








Southwest Colorado Fire Danger Fuel Model H – Pinyon/Juniper (Light Dead)



Fire Danger Area:

- ◆ Fuel Model H P/J
- DRC Forecast Zone 207
 Charles Monfold
- Chapin, Morfield

Fuel Model H Pinyon/Juniper Light Dead

Fire Danger Interpretation:



EXTREME -- Use extreme caution (Caution) -- Watch for change

Moderate -- Lower Potential, but always be aware

Maximum -- Highest Energy Release Component by day for 1972 - 2005

Average -- shows peak fire season

90th Percentile -- Only 10% of the days from 1972 - 2005 had an Energy Release Component above 42

Local Thresholds - Watch out: Combinations of any of these factors can greatly increase fire behavior: 20' Wind Speed over 16 mph, RH less than 20%, Temperature over 90, 10-Hour Fuel Moisture less than 7

Fuel Model H PINYON/JUNIPER (LIGHT DEAD) LOW ELEVATION (Under

8,500') - The short-needled conifers are represented by Fuel Model H. In contrast to Model G fuels, Fuel Model H describes a healthy stand with sparse undergrowth and a thin layer of ground fuels. Fires in H fuels are typically slow spreading and are dangerous only in scattered areas where the downed woody material is concentrated. However, with the recent increase in mortality affecting most pinyon and juniper stands in southwest Colorado expect to see a moderate amount of dead pinyon in these stands. In addition, an increase in cheat and other grasses and forbs has resulted in fairly continuous fine fuels underneath these pinyon and juniper stands. Increased fine dead fuels in the crowns of the pinyon combined with an increase in grass fuels on the surface will contribute to more intense fires and fires that exhibit faster rates of spread. Increased spotting may also be experienced due to the increase in receptive fuels.

Dates to Remember: House Creek Fire, 7/16/98, 800 Acres, BI-35, ERC-8 Coyote Fire, 6/17/86, 3,000 Acres, BI-17, ERC-30